

# Weekly Views

December 28, 2012

Carrie Thorman, Edinburgh Correctional Facility Program Coordinator, delivered nearly 350 Christmas cards to Riley Children's Hospital just in time for Christmas. Each card was hand drawn, colored and stuffed into brightly colored envelopes by offenders participating in Edinburgh's Reformative, Residential, Re-entry Program (RRRP). The intent of this program is to instill a set of core values into the offenders who successfully complete the requirements of the program. The offenders enjoyed making these cards and hope they

brought a ray of happiness to the children and their families during the holiday season. (see photo right of Carrie Thorman)

The New Castle Correctional Facility donated 662 pounds of food collected from staff, offenders, and the facility's Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) Unit to God's Grain Bin, a local food bank in New Castle, IN.

The PLUS students at Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) made their first donation of loom-knitted hats, scarves, tube-socks and a baby blanket to Jason Mitchell of the Logansport Emmaus Mission. Since January,



Chaplain Hedges has been teaching volunteer PLUS students loom-knitting as a way to give to the community and earn service points required for their program. Once a student learns to do the loom-knitting he then teaches another student. A loom-knitting project may have several successive students working on it before it is completed. (see photo left)

The Correctional Industrial Facility was pleased to close the year with a few fun events. The Dog Scouts of America, a non-profit organization, donated gift bags containing toys and treats to the FIDO (Faith+Inmates+Dogs=Opportunity) and 9-Lives programs. The animals were eager to receive their gifts. The facility also made brighter for a few local families. Staff adopted a local family with three children and helped provide Christmas gifts and gift cards for them. The gifts were supplied by generous facility staff through personal donations. The facility was also able to donate \$250 to the Pendleton Elementary school through the "Helping Hands" program. The money was generated through the facility's Fresh Favorites program.

Congratulations to Pendleton Correctional Facility Case Worker Chad Smith who was recognized during a ceremony in the Superintendent's Office in connection with his promotion to the position of Correctional Lieutenant. (see photo right of Major Cathy Elliott, Lieutenant Chad Smith, and Lead Captain Michael Conyers)

Miami Correctional Facility promoted four people to sergeant and one person to lieutenant. Staff who were promoted to sergeant include Justin Crousore, Dale Chasteen, Quentin Coppennoll and James Marshall, and Christopher Meredith was promoted to lieutenant.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Fatherhood Program made its final 2012 donation to North Knox Social Ministries, with a \$1,000 gift. This year was marked by strong community support from WVCF with Fatherhood supplying over \$10,000 to not-for-profits, benefitting children. The WVCF PLUS unit made total cash contributions of over \$14,000 to worthy causes and donated nearly 3,000 handcrafted quilts to benefit those in need! (see photo below of Community Service Director Michele Lincoln, Cheryl Smith, NKSM and Re-Entry Coordinator Mark Mackey)



Offenders at Westville Correctional Facility completed their Inside/Out Dad's program just in time for the holidays. At the conclusion of their 12 week curriculum, offenders made videos to their children sending messages of hope and wishing them "Happy Holidays". Some offenders choose to read a story or recite a poem, some even got a little sentimental when talking about the Holidays. The videos are sent to the children as a reminder of their father's commitment to be a productive part of their lives, inside and out of prison.

Students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility made sun-catchers for residents at Rawlin's House. The sun-catchers were delivered to the nursing home on Christmas Eve. Residents were very appreciative of these Christmas gifts.



Happy  
New Year  
2013